

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 164817

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ORIGIN EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ISO-00 /028 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE JGSULLIVAN/WPKELLY

APPROVED BY EUR MR. LAINGEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 164817

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO, US

SUBJECT: U.S. RESPONSE TO SITUATION IN PORTUGAL

REF: (A) LISBON 3911 (B) LISBON 3936 (C) SECTO 60043

1. WE ARE NOT CONFIDENT THAT A UNILATERAL U.S. STATEMENT OR ACTION WILL INFLUENCE THE OUTCOME OF THE PORTUGUESE POLITICAL CRISIS; EXCEPT PERHAPS NEGATIVELY. FOR THE MOMENT, AT LEAST, WE PREFER TO CONFINE OUR REACTION TO DEVELOPMENTS IN LISBON WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE WESTERN EUROPEAN RESPONSE, AS YOU ALSO RECOMMEND. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THE SITUATION FURTHER WITH THE SECRETARY'S PARTY ON ITS RETURN.

2. THUS FAR, WE HAVE FRENCH AND ITALIAN REACTIONS. FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN OVER THE DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL, SAYING HE DID NOT BELIEVE THEY CORRESPONDED TO A SENSE OF PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY AS CONVEYED BY PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES WHEN HE VISITED PARIS IN EARLY JUNE. SAUVAGNARGUES ALSO SAID THAT HE THOUGHT

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IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR THE E.C. COUNCIL TO REACH A

DECISION ON THE QUESTION OF PORTUGUESE AID AT ITS NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING, EVEN THOUGH THAT SUBJECT IS ON THE AGENDA. ITALIAN SOCIALIST LEADER ENRICO MANCA SAID THAT

YOUNG PORTUGUESE DEMOCRACY IS IN DANGER AND THAT THE POSITION OF SOCIALISTS IS ONE OF FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF EVERY AUTHENTIC DEMOCRACY.

3. WE HAVE ASKED VOA TO INCLUDE THESE AND OTHER EUROPEAN EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN IN ITS REGULAR NEWSCASTS.

ROBINSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 12 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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